



Date of Notice: March 12, 2026

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

PROJECT NAME/NUMBER: SD Civic Theater Safety and Communications Improvements
COMMUNITY PLAN AREA: Downtown
COUNCIL DISTRICT: 3
LOCATION: 1100 Third Avenue, San Diego, CA 92101

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project will deliver improved lighting for safer congregant spaces with extended use into evening or morning hours, a high visibility communication platform including a large format LED display and an audio system capable of broadcasting key directives under varied public safety conditions.

Lighting improvements consist of: installing upgraded, digitally connected lighting assets capable of indicating key public health or emergency status through shade/color modification and optimized for connectivity to audio/visual systems, programming the lighting system with defined designs for regular and emergency status indication, and implementing directional lighting unique to different functionalities/ areas of the plaza for regular, enhanced and emergency usage.

Communication improvements consist of: installing and securely mounting a high-visibility, large LED screen suitable for outdoor and including necessary protection against theft, damage and vandalism; installing and configuring a screen such that it is capable of integrating with a Content Management system including information to be displayed at the City's sole discretion; Installing all weatherproof technology and ensure specified product is compatible with existing power resources or resources required to be adapted or delivered by the City; procuring and installing a high-fidelity audio system designed for weatherproof/outdoor usage to facilitate audio broadcast in the foyer to the City Administration Building and along the external columns of the City Concourse reaching from the City Administration Building to the Evan Jones Parkade; and procuring and installing an "audio cabinet" for usage for external broadcast of information broadcast by the City through the audio system or adjoining audio resources (i.e. a Speaker's Podium).

ENTITY CONSIDERING PROJECT APPROVAL: City of San Diego

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: Categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA State Guidelines, Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) and 15323 (Normal Operations of Facilities for Public Gatherings).

ENTITY MAKING ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: City of San Diego Mayor-Appointed Designee.

STATEMENT SUPPORTING REASON FOR ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:

The City of San Diego conducted an environmental review that determined the project would not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) which consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use; and Section 15323 (Normal Operations of Facilities for Public Gatherings) which consists of normal operations of existing facilities for public gatherings for which the facilities were designed, where there is a past history of the facility being used for the same or similar kind of purpose. The exceptions listed in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 would not apply in that no cumulative impacts were identified; no significant effects on the environment were identified; the project is not adjacent to a scenic highway; no historical resources would be affected by the action; and the project was not identified on a list of hazardous waste sites pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

CITY CONTACT: Krissy Maier, Community Development Coordinator, Economic Development Department

MAILING ADDRESS: 1200 Third Avenue, Suite 1400, San Diego, CA 92101

PHONE NUMBER/E-MAIL: (619) 236-6312/KMaier@sandiego.gov

On March 12, 2026, the City of San Diego made the above-referenced environmental determination pursuant to CEQA. This determination is appealable to the City Council. If you have any questions about this determination, contact the City Contact listed above.

Applications to appeal the CEQA determination to the City Council must be filed with the Office of the Clerk within five (5) business days from the date of the posting of this Notice March 19, 2026. Appeals to the City Clerk must be filed via e-mail or in-person as follows:

1. Appeals filed via Email: The Environmental Determination Appeal Application Form [DS-3031](#) can be obtained at <https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/legacy/development-services/pdf/industry/forms/ds3031.pdf>. Send the completed appeal form (including grounds for appeal and supporting documentation in pdf format) by email to Hearings1@sandiego.gov by 5:00p.m. on the last day of the appeal period; your email appeal will be acknowledged within 24 business hours. You must separately mail the appeal fee by check payable to the City Treasurer to: City Clerk/Appeal, MS 2A, 202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101. The appeal filing fee must be United States Postal Service (USPS) postmarked) before or on the final date of the appeal.
2. Appeals filed In-Person: The Environmental Determination Appeal Application Form [DS-3031](#) can be obtained at: <https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/legacy/development-services/pdf/industry/forms/ds3031.pdf>. Bring the fully completed appeal application [DS-3031](#) (including grounds for appeal and supporting documentation) to the City Administration Building— Public Information Counter (Open 8:00am to 5:00pm Monday through Friday excluding City approved holidays), 1st Floor Lobby, located at 202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101, by 5:00pm on the last day of the appeal period. The completed appeal form shall include the required appeal fee, with a check payable to: City Treasurer.

The appeal application can also be obtained from the City Clerk, 202 'C' Street, Second Floor, San Diego, CA 92101.

This information will be made available in alternative formats upon request.

POSTED ON THE CITY'S CEQA WEBSITE

POSTED: 3/12/2026

REMOVED: _____

POSTED: v. Sandoval